EXHIBIT 1 | DATE 3 / 17/09 | SB 336

Senate Bill 336 March 17, 2009 Presented by Jim Kropp House Fish, Wildlife & Parks Committee

Mr. Chairman and committee members, for the record I am Jim Kropp, Chief of Law Enforcement of Montana Department of Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP).

I come before you to offer informational testimony on SB 336. FWP offered oppositional testimony on SB 336 when it was first in the Senate. We opposed the bill in its initial form due to problems we felt were implicit in the legislation. However, since then, SB 336 was amended in committee to the degree we believe is more specific and palatable.

I should mention that to this point, the number of inquiries we receive annually to use dogs to track wounded game has been limited. Regardless of the ultimate disposition of SB 336, we do feel it is important, to maintain the distinction between using dogs to track wounded big game animals and using them to actually hunt them.

I'd be glad to answer any questions you may have.